

## simplify : third

MATTHEW 28:18-20 (P. 698)

Week of January 22, 2012

Message 3

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well.*  
**Matthew 6:33**

## the third priority

***My spiritual growth (discipleship) comes third.***

According to **Matthew 28:18-20**, Jesus' goal for people is that they become "disciples." According to that passage, what does it mean to be a disciple?

Have you been baptized like Jesus was?

Are you living in obedience to Jesus' commands?

**Read Luke 6:39-49.**

According to that passage, what does it mean to be a disciple (follower of Jesus)?

How does a person grow spiritually? Mention things taught in this passage (the blind can't lead the blind, nor should they follow the blind!) and things implied by it.

On Sunday, we talked about these building blocks of an obedient life:  
***a transformed mind • a cleansed heart  
a disciplined life • an abiding / enduring spirit***

How true are each of these for you?

## Preparing for commitment Sunday:

## The Earth Commitment

***God is creating me. I started as dust, but I'm becoming like Jesus. I rejoice in trials and hardships because Christ suffered for me, and I am a living sacrifice transformed by the truths of God.***

***Rom 8:29 :: Rom 12:1-2 :: Gen 1:27, 2:7 :: 2 Cor 4:7-10***

*Specifically, I will pursue opportunities for spiritual growth. I will root out sin in my life through regular self-examination and confession of sin both to God and to accountability partners, and in all areas of uncertainty, I will submit first to the clear teaching of the Bible, then to the leaders God has placed over me, and finally, after prayer, to my own conscience.*

What is your reaction to these statements?

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